

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (new): Internal combustion engine using dry-sump-principle pressure lubrication, comprising a crankcase having an oil suction space in a lower part thereof so that lubricant oil is conveyed out of a sump through an oil return pump provided with an oil suction line to an oil supply container while the lubricant oil in at least one of the oil supply container and the oil supply space is conveyed to consumers via a main delivery pump, wherein an annular space is arranged around cylinder groups as part of the lubricant oil conveying to the oil supply container.

Claim 8 (new): Internal combustion engine according to claim 7, wherein the engine is an opposed-cylinder engine.

Claim 9 (new): Internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the annular space is open to a crank space and is gasket-sealed.

Claim 10 (new): Internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 7, wherein the annular space is vented.

Claim 11 (new): Internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 7,
wherein the oil supply space is integrated into the crankcase.

Claim 12 (new): Internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 11,
wherein oil supply space is integrated into the crankcase so as to be separated
from the dry sump space by one or more bulkhead walls.

Claim 13 (new): Internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 7,
wherein the crankcase is of open deck configuration.